

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A shield material comprising:
a flexible element formed of a composite material consisting of an organic material and a dispersed material having a nuclear ~~or electromagnetic~~ radiation-shielding ability; and a cloth-like sheet formed of a flame-resistant fiber,
wherein said flexible element is wrapped with said cloth-like sheet, and
wherein said dispersed material is a tungsten powder.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The shield material as defined in claim 1, wherein said flame-resistant fiber is either one selected from the group consisting of glass fiber, metal fiber, carbon fiber and ceramic fiber.
5. (Original) The shield material as defined in claim 1, wherein said cloth-like sheet is coated with a non-air permeable coating material.
- 6 - 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A shielding material comprising a reinforcing member attached onto a shielding element consisting of an elastic polymeric organic compound dispersed with a dispersed material having a nuclear radiation-shielding ability.

~~The shield material as defined in claim 6,~~ wherein said dispersed material is a tungsten powder, and wherein said reinforcing member is attached to said shielding element in such a manner as to be compression-bonded thereto.

11. (Currently Amended) A shielding material comprising a reinforcing member attached onto a shielding element consisting of an elastic polymeric organic compound dispersed with a dispersed material having a nuclear radiation-shielding ability.

~~The shield material as defined in claim 6,~~ wherein said dispersed material is a tungsten powder, and wherein said reinforcing member is attached to said shielding element in such a manner as to be compression-bonded between two divided pieces of said shielding element.

12. (Currently Amended) A shielding material comprising a reinforcing member attached onto a shielding element consisting of an elastic polymeric organic compound dispersed with a dispersed material having a nuclear radiation-shielding ability, and ~~The shield material as defined in claim 6, which further includes~~ a cloth-like sheet which is wrapped around the integral structure of said shielding element and said reinforcing member attached thereto, wherein said dispersed material is a tungsten powder, and wherein said cloth-like sheet being is interweaved with a high-strength fiber which is either one selected from the group consisting of glass fiber, metal fiber and nylon fiber.

13. (New) The shield material as defined in claim 1, wherein said composite material consists essentially of 60% dispersed material and 40% organic material.

14. (New) The shield material as defined in claim 10, wherein said dispersed material is a tungsten powder and said elastic polymeric organic compound consists of an elastomer resin or a vulcanized rubber.

15. (New) The shield material as defined in claim 10, wherein said reinforcement member is at least one selected from the group consisting of a film made of polyethylene, nylon or metal, and wire mesh formed of nylon fiber or metal fiber.

16. (New) The shield material as defined in claim 10, wherein said reinforcement member is a plate- or rod- shaped member having a surface formed with at least one protrusion.

17. (New) The shield material as defined in claim 16, wherein said at least one protrusion prevents the shielding element from being bent beyond a given bending angle.